

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for forming images comprising the steps of:

conducting recording on a recording medium  
5 provided with an image-receiving layer; providing thermoplastic resin particles onto said image-receiving layer; and heating and pressurizing said thermoplastic resin particles on said image-receiving layer.

10 2. A process for forming images as set forth in claim 1, wherein the surface glossiness of said heating and pressurizing means is equal or greater than 10% at an incident angle of 20°.

15 3. A process for forming images as set forth in claim 2, wherein said surface glossiness is equal or greater than 70% at an incident angle of 75°.

20 4. A process for forming images as set forth in claim 1,

wherein either the glass transition point of said thermoplastic resin particles is lower than the glass transition point of a binder resin in said image-receiving layer or the film-forming temperature of said  
25 thermoplastic resin particles is lower than the film-forming temperature of a binder resin in said image-receiving layer.

5. A process for forming images as set forth in claim 1, wherein the average particle diameter of said thermoplastic resin particles is smaller than the maximum unevenness of the surface of said image-receiving layer.

6. A process for forming images as set forth in claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic resin particles comprise two or more types of resin particles.

7. A process for forming images as set forth in claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic resin particles are provided to said receiving layer by use of an intermediate transfer body.

8. A process for forming images as set forth in claim 7, wherein said intermediate transfer body is a charged drum.

9. An apparatus for forming images comprising:  
an ink-jet head for conducting recording on a recording medium;

providing means for providing thermoplastic resin particles to the recording medium on which recording has been conducted; and

heating and pressurizing means for heating and pressurizing said thermoplastic resin particles to

flatten.

10. An apparatus for forming images as set forth  
in claim 9, wherein said providing means is an  
5 intermediate transfer body.

11. An apparatus for forming images as set forth  
in claim 10, wherein said intermediate transfer body is  
a charged drum.

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